(b) if so, whether India has also taken any such step; and

(c) if so, when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Denial of access to US markets by steel exporters

476. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that, from Anti-dumping actions, Washington has started employing ISO quality standards as yet another device to deny market access for iron and steel products from India;

(b) whether this move does not amount to a non-tariff barrier and thereby violating the principle of free-trade;

(c) if so, how Government are thinking of dealing with the situation;

(d) whether any negotiations have been made with the US Administration; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Steel

477. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether, of late China, has adopted a rigid posture with regard to export of steel and steel products from India to the Chinese market;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether a high-level delegation led by the Secretary, Ministry of Steel visited China recently; and

(d) if so, whether the matter was discussed with the Chinese authorities to the satisfaction of both the countries?